

A spreader roll that is useful to spread a slit web into a plurality of split webs for rewinding or at numerous other critical processes positions on web machines and related finishing and converting equipment. The spreader roll includes a bowable shaft and a plurality of interconnected cylinder elements mounted for rotation about the shaft. The cylinder elements each include a cylindrical outer surface and opposite end portions having nonlinear profiles to thereby provide intermittent support of the split webs as they pass over the spreader roll.

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